



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Community Advisory Group Selected to Help Shape a New Ferry Terminal at Colman Dock

(SEATTLE)- A group of 16 community members will meet for the first time next week to advise Washington State Ferries (WSF) on the development of a new ferry terminal at Colman Dock. Over the next two years, the Community Advisory Group (CAG) will help formulate options for the terminal throughout the development of a preferred option, provide key feedback to the project team and assist in updating their communities about project developments over the next two years. CAG meetings are open to the public and there will be a short comment period at the end of each meeting.

The CAG represents a diverse range of business, commuter, environmental and community interests and includes members from Seattle and greater Kitsap County. The CAG also includes members from WSF's Ferry Advisory Committees (FACs). The 16 members were selected from 35 letters of interest through a screening process that included staff from the City of Seattle and a member of the Washington State Transportation Commission.

CAG members:

- Michael Atkins (Member of Feet First, pedestrian advocacy group)
- Michael Berk (Bainbridge Island resident and daily bicycle commuter on the ferry)
- John Blackman (Waterfront business owner and terminal neighbor, owner of Argosy Cruises)
- Darrell Bryan (Executive Vice President and General Manager of Victoria Clipper)
- Gary Dawson (West Seattle resident and chair of Fauntleroy FAC)
- John DeLanoy (Member of Pioneer Square Preservation Board)
- Joan Dingfield (Bremerton resident and member of Bremerton FAC)
- Bob Donegan (Waterfront business owner and terminal neighbor, owner of Ivar's)
- Kathy Fletcher (Executive Director, People for Puget Sound)
- John Hoffman (Member of the Seattle Design Commission)
- Roger Ottenbach (Port Orchard ferry commuter, Pioneer Square business owner and member of Downtown Seattle Association's Viaduct Task Force)

- Conrad Plyler (Port Orchard ferry commuter and member of Southworth FAC)
- Mike Sudduth (Vashon Island ferry commuter and member of Vashon Island FAC)
- Jo Thompson (President of the Pioneer Square Community Association)
- Paul Topper (Bainbridge Island resident and member of Bainbridge Island FAC and the Bainbridge Island Ferry Terminal Improvement Project CAG)
- Todd Vogel (Member of Allied Arts of Seattle)

The first CAG meeting is scheduled for June 29 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at the Spike Eikum Room in the Seattle Ferry Terminal, 801 Alaskan Way, Pier 52. The first meeting will introduce the new CAG members to the project. Members will learn about the WSF Draft Long Range Plan and growth projections for Colman Dock, receive an introduction to the Seattle Ferry Terminal Project, and review public and agency comments received during the environmental scoping period. Members will also discuss their goals for the CAG process and the group's work plan.

Background

Colman Dock is old and significant preservation work is needed to maintain operations and fix the deteriorating dock, trestles, and transfer spans. WSF is planning a new, updated terminal facility that will fix aging structures, accommodate future ridership growth, and improve pedestrian and transit connections. The state legislature has programmed \$225 million in state funds to preserve and improve the ferry terminal. The project also offers the opportunity for expanded retail and commercial activities, public amenities and access to the waterfront. Private capital would be necessary to pay for development and other amenities beyond the needs of the ferry system. WSF plans to work with the CAG members, ferry passengers and the community to find an option that balances public benefits with the project budget and operational needs.

Environmental scoping for the project ended on May 19, 2006. The draft environmental impact statement is scheduled to be published in 2008 and construction on the new terminal may begin as early as 2010. This project is being closely coordinated with the replacement of the Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall.

For more information on the project, please contact Hadley Greene, WSF, at (206) 515-3913 or greeneh@wsdot.wa.gov or visit the project website at: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/projects/SeattleColmanDock/>.

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